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SECRETARY OF THE STATE
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**-STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY OF THE STATE SUSAN BYSIEWICZ
REGARDING GAE COMMITTEE'S PLAN FOR HEARINGS ON OPTICAL
SCAN VOTING MACHINES -**

"I welcome the opportunity to work with Senator Schlossberg and Representative Caruso and the entire GAE Committee in continuing to refine our election process. Over the past year, we have conducted more than 200 town hall meetings across the state. In addition, we have held more than 20 de-briefing sessions with local election officials, poll workers and voting advocates. We have gained valuable insight from these meetings and we have made changes to improve the administration of elections in this state. We have conducted many elections since November 2006 using the new optical scan voting machines, and following each one of those elections, the advice and suggestions we have received from both election officials and voters have given us the opportunity to improve. We look forward to that continued work with the legislature as well."